

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-3, 9, 11, and 50 were previously pending in this application. Claims 1 and 50 have been amended. As a result claims 1-3, 9, 11, and 50 are pending for examination with claim 1 being an independent claim. No new matter has been added.

**Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph**

Claims 1-3, 9, 11, and 50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The examiner maintains that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. In the final office action the examiner has stated that claim 50 “does not reasonably provide enablement for, a pharmaceutical composition comprising an isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of SEQ ID NO:1...”

Applicants have amended claim 50 to remove the term “pharmaceutical” from the preamble. It is believed that this amendment is sufficient to overcome the rejection.

**Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph**

Claims 1-3, 9, 11, and 50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The examiner maintains that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The examiner also asserts that there is insufficient written description for the same reason.


In the final office action the examiner has stated that “ ‘complements’ encompasses a virtually unlimited number of nucleic acid fragments.” The examiner further advises that “the recitation of ‘nucleic acid molecules fully complementary to the nucleic acid molecules of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3’ would obviate the rejection.” Claim 1 was amended accordingly. It is believed that the amendment to claim 1 is sufficient to overcome the outstanding rejection.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Lockhart', is written over a horizontal line.

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